



METEORITES, MOON ROCKS & COLLISIONS

4th Grade

DESCRIPTION

Enhance your 4th grade students' understanding of the solar system with this program. Students will compare and contrast the physical attributes of planets as well as conducting hands-on experiments where they will model meteorite impacts on a planetary surface. Students will learn to distinguish between planets, moons, asteroids, and comets. Program will run for 2 hours.

30 MINUTES – PLANETARIUM SHOW

- *Firefall*

30 MINUTES - LAB

- Discuss elements of the solar system, including the Sun, Earth, and other planets, meteors, asteroids, and comets.
- Create a model of meteorite impacts on a planetary surface and conduct analysis of how the angles of descent affect crater size.

30 MINUTES - GALLERY TIME

- The Millar Science in Motion gallery will feature actual equipment used to venture into space, in addition to full-sized replicas and scaled models.
- Examine the surface of the Moon using a relief map of the lunar surface.

Discussions will also include a description of the conditions faced by the Apollo 11 astronauts on their moon landing.

- Participate in a solar system rope activity which will demonstrate the distances between the planets as well as a discussion regarding planet composition.

30 MINUTES

- Visit the Store and Foucault Pendulum
- Visit the Coin Vortex to demonstrate the gravitation effect our Sun has on the orbit and speed of rotation of the planets.

TAKE HOME ITEMS

- Meteorite bookmarks and Moon maps